



LITTLE TRAVERSE BAY BANDS OF ODAWA INDIANS

TRIBAL COUNCIL TRAVEL REPORT NARRATIVE

From: Kevin A. Gasco

Date: March 11, 2012

Re: United Tribes Meeting, February 29, 2012

I attended the United Tribes Meeting (UTM) held in the conference room of Clark Construction,
Located at 3535 Moores River Drive, in Lansing, MI. Present from LTBB was Tribal Chairman
Dexter McNamara, Tribal Council Treasurer John Bott, Tribal Councilor Bill Denemy Jr., former
Tribal Chairman and UTM Executive Director Frank Ettawageshick, and myself.
Presenters at the one day meeting included: Del Laverdure, Principal Deputy Assistant
Secretary for Indian Affairs, DOI; Brian Newland, Counselor to the Assistant Secretary of
Indian Affairs, DOI; David Cournoyer, Kellogg Foundation; Lt. David M. French, US
Coast Guard; Douglas Colwell, US Coast Guard (Ret.), US Coast Guard Auxiliary; Brian
Pierson, Godfrey & Kahn; Ross Miller and Elaine Clement, Small Business Technology
And Development Centers; Danny Garceau, Chairman SAIGE (Society of American Indian
Government Employees); Stacey Tadgerson, MI DHS; Melissa Clairmunt, MI DCR; Carol

Bergquist, HIC, and Bill Colombo, MI Rehabilitation Services; and Tom Durkee, MEDC.
HIGHLIGHTS
Del Laverdure and Bryan Newland: Discussed compact agreements and Interior's opinion
that revenue sharing should be dependent on market share and demographics. Interior's
opinion that the states should take less off the top when tribes are at a disadvantage so the
income afterwards is "meaningful and beneficial". Interior has mixed feelings regarding in-
ternet gaming.
Kellogg Foundation initiatives in Indian Country: focusing on health, education, and family
economic security. Funding streams based on helping native children through family econo-
mic security through economic development. Also, the Foundation's initiative on oral health
is looking for pilot programs in Michigan.
The Coast Guard Auxiliary is involved in education for children. The Coast Guard will be
assisting the body charged with the long range planning for the Great Lakes area and urges
Tribal participation.
Brian Pierson (Godfrey & Kahn): Gave an Indian law update regarding two cases: the first
being Salazar v Rama, which they are reviewing, and Salazar v Patchak. He also gave updates
and talked about mining issues in Wisconsin and implications of the Clean Air and Clean Water
Acts. He recommends tribes set up procedures in advance to deal with environmental protection
measures. The recommendation regards establishment of Class 1 status which would enable
the tribe to give input on issuance of permits within a certain radius of tribal lands and

and require the Tribe be notified of permit applications and an “automatic” seat at the table
when it comes to discussion about the permit. He also talked about green energy, specifically
a “bio-digester” which produces enough electricity to sell back to the power companies. The
only by-products are CO2 and water. He spoke about the MAP21 issue as well and how it will
help big western tribes but hurt the Midwestern tribes with the change in the funding formula.
MI Rehabilitation Services: Focus on ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act); the presenta-
tion focused on Tribal matching funds for federal dollars. With a \$10,000 agreement tribes can
gain access to \$30,000 federal dollars to assist with hiring and retention of disabled workers.
Even without the tribal agreement, individuals can access MRS for services. Without more
Tribal participation, \$9-10 Million in federal funds may be lost.
MEDC: Tribal Business Development Forum, May 17-18, 2012 at the Lansing Radisson.
I thought this was a very good exchange of relevant information. The MI DHS and MI DCR
Presentations were mainly updates on numbers. The format did not allow for morning or
Afternoon breaks and I think that should be changed. There was not much time to network
With other tribal leaders.
There were two resolutions passed at this meeting; one to honor Miranda Washinawatok and
another supporting passage of a Federal Transportation Funding that includes a fair and equitable
Tribal funding formula.
Kevin A. Gasco, Tribal Councilor